

THE
Medical and Agricultural Register.

VOL. I.] *MAY, 1807.* [No. 17.

M E D I C A L.

Remedy for Worms, particularly the Tape Worm.

DR. ADAMS,

SHOULD the following recipe correspond with the plan of your useful Register, you will please to insert it.

It is with grief, and some indignation, that I find our apothecary shops filled with Patent Medicines, which, for the most part, are puffed off as infallible remedies in almost every disease. I can also recommend a remedy (without patent) for worms, *especially* for the Tape Worm, which, I believe, in every christian sense, preferable to any worm nostrum of the shops. It is cheap, safe, speedy, and efficacious: possibly, however, not absolutely infallible in all cases.

Long since, the difficulty of cure, in many worm cases, convinced me, that it was utterly futile to depend on the specific virtues of any medicine to free the human body from worms, and excited my attention to other methods. This medicine of mine rests, principally, on mechanical laws; its own structure of parts, in connexion with the peristaltic motion of the stomach and intestines, aided by the squirming of the worms. By attrition, it soon destroys a nest of worms; and, by its warm and bitter ingredients, disturbs these base tenants of the bowels, and prevents that sinking and debility, which too often attend or follow upon a course of Anthelmintics. It is also safe in the hands of every old matron; and may profitably be employed in many other cases than worms. It is an excellent stomachic in all cold phlegmatic habits; and very efficacious in most cases of Chlorosis and Cachexy.

In the course of twelve or fourteen years medical practice, in my younger days, I frequently witnessed the efficacy of this medicine, in all the above mentioned cases: nor can I recollect that it ever failed me in any worm case. Was it necessary, certificates of its virtues might easily be procured from physicians and others, who have used it upon my recommendation; but actual experiment will best decide on its utility.

As I write for the public, I will give the recipe in plain English, viz.

Take the spiky tops of wormwood, the flowers of tansy, and the root of wake-robbin,* of each one ounce; mix and pulverize. Take the bright scales of iron from a smith's forge, two ounces, and white chrystral glafs, one ounce; mix, and make them into a moderately fine powder, but not impalpable. Then mix the whole together accurately for use.† Dose for an adult, from 30 to 40 grains, or about a moderate tea-spoonful in molasses. For children, the dose must be proportioned to their age.

DIRECTIONS.

Take a dose morning and night, on an empty stomach, for three days; and on the fourth, purge off with jalap, or any convenient physic. Repeat the course as the case may require. One and two courses in the common worm cases will suffice. I never had occasion for more than three, even in the tape worm. In alterative cases, the physic should be omitted.

SENEX.

Hartland, Connecticut, March, 1807.

For the MEDICAL AND AGRICULTURAL REGISTER.

Submitted for the Consideration of Physicians.

WOULD it not be a good practice for practitioners of medicine, to keep a recipe book? By which I mean that they should note in it the several recipes they give, their dates, and the complaints for which they are prescribed. It has frequently happened to me, that after attending very closely to the history of a case, together with existing symptoms, that I have advised a remedy which has proved successful. Some time after, the disease has returned, and I have been requested by the patient to give him the medicine which relieved him before; but this, in the mean time, has entirely escaped my memory, though I

* Dragon root, as it is sometimes called.

† The leaves of wormwood and tansy will answer if need be; and instead of wake-robbin, I have used the bark of the root of sassafras, to very good purpose.

still recollect the character of his disease; whereas, could I remember the article which had cured him formerly, I could proceed with more certainty, and thus the art of prescribing for the sick, as it would be less conjectural, would be both more useful and satisfactory.

This practice would tend equally to improve the history of diseases, and that of the *Materia Medica*. For myself, I have concluded to commence the practice immediately.

G.

Of Medicines prepared in Distilled Spirits.

Dr. RUSH, in his “*Observations on the duties of a Physician*,”* has the following remarks :

Give as few medicines as possible in tinctures made with distilled spirits. Perhaps there are few cases in which it is safe to exhibit medicines prepared in spirits, in any other form than in drops. Many people have been innocently seduced into a love of strong drink, from taking large or frequent doses of bitters, infused in spirits. Let not our profession be reproached in a single instance, with adding to the calamities that have been entailed upon mankind by this dreadful species of intemperance.

AGRICULTURAL.

Practical Farmers should be induced to Communicate—Would succeed, were they to set themselves about it—The Importance, to the Public, of their Communications.

DR. ADAMS,

THE most solid wealth of the country is in the land—and by the better improvement of the land, it is difficult to say how much the general wealth may be augmented. To accomplish this most desirable end, to increase this sort of honest long-wearing riches, it is necessary to spread among the farmers a general spirit of observation, and a zeal for improvement, and also to direct this zeal.

In this view, the design of your Register is eminently commendable. By answering both the before mentioned purposes,

* See his “*Medical Inquiries*,” Vol. I. page 406.

viz. of awaking and directing the spirit of improvement, it is calculated to be doubly useful, and far better deserves a general patronage than any party newspapers.

Ingenious fine spun theories are not half so much wanted by our husbandmen, as facts and practical observations. No men, in my opinion, are so likely to furnish these as the plain farmers, many of whom are better stored with good sense than good grammar. It is, therefore, an object of public utility, to invite such men to write for your Register. With slight corrections, which you would of course make, their performances would generally instruct and entertain. They are timid, and are hardly to be emboldened to state their observations, though nine times out of ten they would prove more judicious and useful than the speculations of scholars. It is needless to remark, that harsh criticism ought never to be feared by any of your correspondents. On such terms, a correspondent would be nearly as willing to get into the law as to get into print.

I observe, with some regret, that one of your correspondents for April, remarks, in a style that I hope is INIMITABLE by any writer in your Register, that the objections to his favourite theory, by another correspondent, were "hasty," and that those objections "display more of the *orator*, than the REFLECTING agriculturalist." He buckles on his war harness of controversy, and calls his adversary's performance "mere declamation," and that he can select "only three or four sentences to the point."

The pride of opinion is, indeed, very intolerant. Yet, after all this arrogant notice of his adversary, he employs almost four pages to answer his objections, which, for "mere declamation," is a great deal too much.

Your correspondents ought to feel at ease in writing for the Register. If they write "in haste," nevertheless they may have remarked and considered what they write, at leisure; and, as before observed, their communications will be worth so much the more for not being too fine spun. Besides, errors, if any escape a writer, are not offences, and should be exposed with candour and politeness.

One great impediment to the usefulness of an agricultural journal, and one that is harder to overcome than most persons would imagine, is the reluctance of the *practical* men to communicate their observations. If they will not freely furnish the materials, at least, for your publication, it will fall into the hands of not more than half a dozen book men, who, indeed, have ingenuity and zeal, but not according to knowledge. Improvement will be hastened much more by publishing what the best farmers *do*, than what the best scholars *think*.

I have long been both jealous and inquisitive on subjects of husbandry (by the way, I like husbandry better than agriculture, for I hate your Latin words) and I have often resorted to plain solid farmers for information with more success, than I ever met with among the book farmers. The men who farm by book are the worst farmers in the country. With a great deal they bring little to pass. I know many men who never read a book on husbandry, who thrive by accomplishing a great deal with a little. Those who follow husbandry for amusement, are the fittest persons to try experiments. But the safest guides to follow, are the most successful among those who depend for the comforts and necessaries of themselves and families on their crops. By making public the best practice of the best farmers, you will do more good than by a thousand ingenious speculations of untried improvements.

MENTOR.

For the MEDICAL AND AGRICULTURAL REGISTER.

Observations and Remarks on the Management of Fruit Trees.

[This, and some of the following articles, ought to have appeared in our last Number. They were omitted for want of room.]

DR. ADAMS,

THE management of fruit trees is a subject which has attracted my attention, even from my early childhood; but, "when I was a child, I understood as a child," and having no instructor, it was a considerable time before my own experience and observation taught me to "put away childish things."

A mind thus exercised, and possessing benevolence, cannot but expand with joy to see so many and so valuable observations as are to be found in the Agricultural Register; many of which so fully coincide with my own experience: such as those very valuable directions for setting trees; for covering the ground near the root from the drought of summer; for covering the wounds, &c. yet I think (with one of your correspondents) that if trees were rightly managed from the beginning, it would rarely be needful to inflict large wounds by trimmings, and much less needful even in correcting a badly formed tree-top than once I thought it was, or than I think most people suppose it is. I will remark upon both these cases.

First then, a fruit-tree should not resemble an aged oak, whose top is divided into equal or nearly equal branches, and

those again subdivided into others nearly equal; for such are apt to enclose bark in the crevices, and prevent the wood from closing as the branches increase; they form cavities, retaining stagnated water, which generates insects in summer, and by freezing, forces the branches apart in winter, and being heavy laden the next season, they will most certainly rend asunder, and one or both the branches fall to the ground.

To avoid this, the limbs should be in complete subordination to the body; the body having *its* limbs, and those limbs *their* limbs; there should be no rivalry or usurpation tolerated among them; the whole should form an obtuse cone, whose base may far exceed the perpendicular, somewhat resembling in form a lonely young white pine, though not like the pine with respect to rings of limbs coming out around the body.

This is a circumstance of more importance than I could easily have believed, without my own repeated experiments and observations. One such ring of limbs will infallibly draw away the sap from the standard, and cause the *upper part* to *dwindle* while *they* will *increase*, become rivals, and contend, like the successors of Alexander, for the whole dominion.

Limbs should leave the body gradually, one above another; one on one side and the next on another, and no limb be left on another limb, near the body. In general prune the limbs rather than the body. Thus the limbs of almost any tree may be made numerous and slender, easily bending with their fruit, and readily gaining their former situation, when left again to themselves. It is highly delightsome, and very curious, to observe how such limbs (well cleared of thorns) will spread themselves apart to receive the meliorating influence of the sun, and healthful gales of wind, at a season when sun and air are most useful, when finishing off their annual task and giving their fruit its final flavor, to see them bending so as to rest their weary heads on the very ground; and again being relieved, rising in graceful majesty to form a phalanx to defend themselves and their common parent against the harsh blast of piercing winter, and the too scorching suns of June and July; and also forming a well constructed conductor to collect the gentle summer showers, to mollify the bark by trickling down the stock, and to moisten the ground at the root.

All this may easily be done with very little cost. By keeping the limbs straight they will never chafe each other, and by taking care in season, there will rarely if ever be any need of taking off a large limb.

But secondly, with such as have been heretofore neglected or injudiciously managed, more severity must sometimes be used, but still far less than I once imagined. I once thought

equal branches were ornamental ; but on discovering my mistake, I began to think of reforming my plan, although at first the task appeared like the *Ethiopian's attempting to change his skin*. For in many instances, if I took off one half of the tree top, still the remainder would be equally divided, and so on and so on. But I find that where branches do not form sharp angles so as to endanger the enclosing of the bark, the growth of one of them may be easily promoted so as soon to become the main standard, while the growth of the other may be so checked as soon to appear as only an ordinary limb from the tree. This may be done by taking all the limbs from one branch which proceed towards the limbs on the other, that those on the latter may have their full swing, their due degree of light, heat and air ; thus requiring more sap, they will increase the growth of the branch from which they shoot, while the former branch, having less labour to perform, will grow more feeble for want of exercise. The inequality may be much sooner produced than many would imagine. I confess I have many times been surprised to see the effect.

It is many times best to take off the top of one of the branches just above where a considerable limb shoots outwards ; and a little below some one from the other branch which will soon overshadow and fill up the vacancy.

Cases needing severity, are such as where branches form sharp angles, and either do or will soon enclose the bark in their crevices. One of such branches must be carefully taken off and the wound safely covered.

Where large limbs shoot out of other limbs near the body, which may be soon overtaken by the swell of the tree ; these also must suffer amputation. And when sprouts arise from lower limbs making their way up through the tree top ; such sprouts should be taken off, though they may be much larger than those limbs which they threaten to chafe above.

E. B.

Groton, N. H. March 17th, 1807.

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Method of raising Cabbage Plants.

DR. ADAMS,

I HEREBY forward you the best mode of raising Cabbage Plants, which has ever come within my knowledge.

As cabbages are among the best of our culinary vegetables, it is of importance that we pursue a sure and easy mode of cultivation.

Without glasses, sow the seed as soon as frosts cease to be seen in the climate in which you live. Choose the seed from the different kinds of the best European growth. Before sowing, choose a favourite spot in your garden. For six hundred plants, dig a square trench, 4 feet each way, to the depth of twelve inches. Take from the horse stable manure enough to fill the trench or square, six inches deep; then shovel in three inches of rich good earth, loam or marl; then add, to fill the square, two inches of bleached ashes, and rich loam, in equal quantities. Let them be reduced fine with an iron teeth rake, then sow the seed, and with a rake, mix the earth and ashes so as to cover the seed. Should the weather be dry, with a water-pot sprinkle a little clear water, so as to moisten the ground to the depth of two inches. Remember always to use ashes that have been bleached, and manure from the horse stable.

Should these plants stand in this square until November, none of the common enemies of this plant would ever be seen to eat them. Boards may be placed around the square, about seven inches high, to prevent any thing interfering with the growth of the plants.

WM. MORSE,

Northborough, April, 1807.

On the Preparation of a Wheat Fallow by a Crop of Potatoes.

By RICHARD S. SMITH, Esq. of Moore's-town, communicated to the Burlington County Agricultural Society.

HAVING frequently heard of great crops of wheat being produced after potatoes,* I was induced to try the experiment upon a lot of two acres and a half, which I had actually measured for that purpose. The soil is hard and in some measure

* See in page 107 of the Register, a similar practice recommended by the Rev. Mr. AUSTIN, of Worcester. In a letter to the Editor, dated Jan. 21, 1807, that gentleman remarks that this wheat "yielded a plump grain, and produced at the rate of twenty-three bushels on the acre."

stony, and had not been manured for a number of years, for which reason I did not promise myself much success. However, early in the spring, 1790, I had as much dung from the barn yard hauled on it, as I thought could be well ploughed in; and on the 23d and 24th of April following, I planted it in the common way, with apricot potatoes, in rows about three feet and a half apart, without dunging the rows, and tended them with a harrow, till they began pretty generally to blossom; I then had them ploughed, and without doing any thing more to them until we gathered them, (which was done on the 6th day of September following, by running the plough on each side of the rows, and then taking them out with a common hoe) the product was 266 bushels, or nearly 106 bushels and one third per acre. The vines I had carefully hauled into my barn yard, and without any other preparation, on the first of October, I sowed the ground with yellow bearded wheat, ploughed it in, and harrowed it after ploughing, that it might lie smooth for clover.

In March, 1791, I had twelve pounds of red clover seed per acre thrown over the ground. The wheat was cradled about the beginning of July, and kept entirely separate from any other until thrashed. It being remarkably clean and heavy, I designed it for seed, and when thrashed, the product was *fifty-two* bushels and an half, or *twenty-one* bushels per acre. The clover looks fine, notwithstanding the uncommon dry weather, and promises to yield abundance, if rain falls in season.

Although this may not equal some experiments that have been made on better ground, or where ground has been limed, or very highly manured, yet from the foregoing statement of facts, I conclude that farmers cannot make a much more profitable use of their fields than to prepare them by the potatoe fallow, for future crops, which may be either wheat, winter barley, or rye, as the soil may best suit, and afterwards red clover, which may be sown the March following, without any additional expense, except the first cost of the seed, as the ground is then thoroughly pulverized and prepared to receive it.

The expense and profits may be stated thus, without charging the ground for the manure, because the good order that it is left in, together with the wheat straw, which is considerable, and the value of the clover, when the wheat is taken off, will amply pay for the manure.

[May,

| Dr. | Potatoes, one acre. | |
|--|---------------------|-----------|
| To rent of one acre | £ 1 0 0 | |
| 9 bushels of seed potatoes at 1/6 | 0 13 0 | |
| First ploughing | 0 8 0 | |
| Furrowing out the ground and planting the potatoes | 1 0 0 | |
| Twice harrowing and once ploughing while growing | 0 12 0 | |
| Gathering the potatoes | 0 15 0 | |
| | | £ 4 8 6 |
| Dr. | Wheat, one acre. | |
| To three pecks seed wheat, at 10/- per bushel | £ 0 7 6 | |
| Sowing, ploughing in, and harrowing | 0 12 0 | |
| Cradling and hauling in | 0 12 0 | |
| Thrashing 21 bushels at 1/- | 0 10 6 | |
| | | £ 2 3 0 |
| Total expense of potatoes and wheat | | £ 6 11 6 |
| Supra Cr. | | |
| By 21 bushels of wheat at 7/6 | £ 7 17 6 | |
| By 106 bushels of potatoes, at 1/6 | 7 19 0 | |
| Expenses deducted | | £ 15 16 6 |
| | | 6 11 6 |
| Net profit of potatoes and wheat per acre | | £ 9 5 0 |

R. S. SMITH.

Moore's-town, Burlington Co. 23d July, 1791.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Remarks upon the Weather of 1806—7, &c.
 Communicated in a Letter to the Editor by his Correspondent at
 Deerfield, (Mass.)

DR. ADAMS,

THE following general remarks upon the winter of 1806—7, with a few observations on the temperature of different places is submitted to your disposal.

The winter of 1806—7, throughout the northern part of the United States has been very cold; some parts of it equal to the remarkable one of 1779—80. The months of November, December, and January, were dry, and the snow much below the usual quantity. At Deerfield, from November to March, inclusive, we had 62 inches of snow; a great proportion of this fell in March. In the mountainous part of the country, there

was a surprising difference: In the fore part of March, on the Green Mountain between Wilmington and Bennington, I found the snow nearly four feet. At Bennington, which is at the foot of the mountain on the west side, the snow, at the same time, was not sufficient for sleighing, and at Deerfield there was very little; but the ground in most places was covered with ice.

The following are the days of continued frost, or the days on which the thermometer was below freezing point.

| | |
|----------|----|
| December | 13 |
| January | 18 |
| February | 8 |
| March | 3 |
| — | |
| | 42 |

Several of these days were extremely cold. The 26th of January has been noticed in the Register. From the observations made in various parts of New-England, the following are selected.

| | | |
|---------------------|------|---|
| Cambridge | 13°* | } |
| Hallowell, (Maine) | 33† | |
| Portsmouth | 9 | |
| Boston | 4 | |
| Smithfield, (R. I.) | 12 | |
| Hartford | 6 | |
| Warwick, (Mass.) | 15 | |
| Deerfield, (Do.) | 10 | |

Below zero at sunrise.

By these observations it appears that the cold differed considerably in different places. Some allowance, undoubtedly ought to be made for the difference of the thermometers and the manner in which they were exposed; but these allowances will not be sufficient to reduce them to a coincidence. Hence it is evident that places, situated at no great distance from each other, differ essentially in their temperature.

The latter part of February, I had an opportunity to measure the depth of the frost, where some people were taking up an aqueduct. This I found to be three feet in level land. At this place there was but a little snow, but the ground was covered with ice. We are informed that the frost does not penetrate the ground to a greater depth at Petersburg in Russia.†

The ice brought down our river, by the freshets in February, was of an unusual thickness. I measured a cake which was

* *Centinel.* † *Chronicle.*

‡ *Tooke's Life of Catherine, Vol. I. page 8.*

2 feet nine inches thick; this was very solid and regular, the two surfaces perfectly parallel; but in general the ice did not exceed two feet. Our river heads in Vermont, in the vicinity of the Green Mountains, where the weather in winter is generally intensely cold, from whence it is probable some of this ice was brought.

The lowest descent of the mercury this winter, at Deerfield, was in the evening of the 26th of January and the morning of the 9th of February, when it was 14° below the freezing point. Although we seldom have colder winters than the last, we sometimes observe the mercury lower. January 16th, 1805, at sunrise, it was 18° below. January 18th, 1806, it was 23° below, in the shade, some time after sunrise. Mr. Fowler's observations at Windsor, Vermont, make this morning one degree colder,* and this is the lowest descent of the mercury at that place noted in his observations for 1806. At Albany, February 9th, 1807, the mercury was 20° below. Seventeen years ago, it was 4° lower at that place. Greater degrees of cold have been observed in America at places whose latitudes do not much exceed ours. At Rutland, Vermont, lat. $43^{\circ} 30'$, Dr. Williams observed the mercury 27° below, on the 19th December, 1790. At Fredericton, on St. John's river, province of New Brunswick, about lat. 46° , I am informed that mercury has been known to freeze, as it has at Quebec, according to the traveller Laincourt. This is the greatest cold of which I have seen any account, in this part of America. If the observation made at Hallowell, viz. 33° below, as mentioned above, be correct, the mercury was but 7 degrees above the point of congelation, which is fixed at 40° below zero. This is said to be the ultimate degree of cold which the mercurial thermometer will measure. The mercury will descend lower than this; and indeed it has been observed at 120° below zero;† but after it passes 40° , it descends by starts, 100 degrees at a time.

On comparing the above statement with observations made at Petersburgh in Russia, it will be seen that the weather, in the northern part of New England and parts adjacent, is sometimes nearly as cold as at that city, which is in lat. $59^{\circ} 56'$. The greatest degree of cold since the building of Petersburgh, was by Reaumer $32\frac{1}{2}$ below, equal to about 42° below Fahrenheit, this was the 6th of January, 1768, and again January, 1799, (Tooke's Life of Catherine, vol. i. p. 10.) But the weather at Peters-

* See Register, No. 14.

† See an "account of some observations and experiments made in Siberia, in 1735, by Dr. Gmelin," which is inserted in the works of Dr. Fothergill, p. 157.

burgh, during most of the winter, is much colder than in New England. The mean of the greatest cold of January, as deduced from observations made at the Imperial Academy of Sciences at Petersburgh, is 22 below 0, Reaumer, equal to $18\frac{1}{4}$ below 0, Fahrenheit. The mean of the month of January last, at Deerfield, is $21\frac{1}{3}$ above.

At London, lat. $51^{\circ} 32'$, the lowest range of the thermometer in January, was as follows :

| | | |
|------|-----|--|
| 1802 | 17° | } above freezing, according to the observation published in the European Magazine for these years. |
| 1804 | 30 | |
| 1805 | 28 | |

With respect to the temperature of a place, it is now agreed that it is not wholly regulated by its latitude, but by other circumstances, such as its height above the level of the ocean ; its vicinity to large tracts of uncultivated lands, marshes, lakes, or seas ; the position and height of its mountains ; the direction of its winds ; and the quantity of evaporation from its surface ; and as these circumstances may be very different in different places, it follows that their several temperatures should also vary, and this is frequently very striking within the compass of a few miles. At Bennington, in the latter part of winter, when the weather is so warm as to melt the snow and uncover the ground, and spring is ushering in, the mountain is generally fast bound in frost ; the air is keen, and the traveller who departs from Bennington to the east, comfortably cloathed, finds it necessary to put on additional cloathing to avoid the frost. This weather frequently continues on the mountain till vegetation is considerably advanced at Bennington. At this place peach trees are sometimes in full blossom, when the mountain is covered with snow, several feet, and every thing on it congealed, as in the midst of winter ; and this difference of temperature exists in the small distance of six miles.

That the winters of New England are more mild than when the country was first settled, is a fact which I believe is well established ; and this is undoubtedly owing to opening and cultivating the lands, by which means the air of the ocean and that of warmer regions penetrates further inland and to the north. But it is believed that we frequently have as cold *days* now as formerly ; and that the N. W. winds will for a long time continue to produce very cold weather ; for they have to traverse a vast extent of uncultivated country, and which, in the winter, and indeed for the greatest part of the year, is covered with frost and snow. These winds are much the most prevalent of any in this part of the country. The winter past they have been very frequent.

Result of Meteorological and other Observations, for April, 1807; made at Deerfield, Warwick, Mason, Smithfield, Hartford, and Boston.

| April, 1807. | Mean degs. at sun-rise. | Mean degs. at 2 P. M. | Mean degree of the month. | Greatest heat in the month. | Least heat in the month. | Prevailing winds. | Marriages. | Births. | Deaths. |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|---------|---------|
| Deerfield | 36 $\frac{2}{3}$ | 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 46 | 28 d. | 70° | 13 d. 14° | N. W. | | 1 |
| Warwick | 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 53 | 44 | 28 | 72 | 1 & 2 21 | N. W. | 2 | — |
| Mason | 36 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 51 | 44 | 19 | 73 | 1 21 | N. W. | | |
| Smithfield | 39 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 45 $\frac{1}{3}$ | 16 | 66 | 1 26 | N. W. | | |
| Hartford | 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 56 | 47 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 27 | 73 | 2 28 | N. W. | | |
| Boston | 40 | 56 | 48 | 20 | 78 | 2 24 | N. W. | | |

WEATHER.

| | | |
|--|----|---|
| 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ day, fair, high winds | 14 | fair, thin scattering |
| 2—fair morn, P. M. & night a storm, snow in the interior, but rain on the coasts | 15 | clouds D first quarter |
| 3—6 to 10 inches of snow last night in the country, much drifted, roads blocked up; fair | 16 | alternate shines |
| 4 } clouds and sunshine; squalls of | 17 | and clouds, |
| 5 } Sund. snow in some places | 18 | foggy |
| 6 } fair, very pleasant; summer birds | 19 | Sund. morn- Deerf. frogs peeped |
| 7 } appeared; 7th little hazy New | 20 | ings and light showers |
| 8—fair, calm and pleasant | 21 | in some places |
| 9—fair morn, hazy, rain at night | 22 | —fair, very clear Full Moon |
| 10—cloudy, fair P. M. | 23 | —fair, rain at night |
| 11—fair, a faint Halo morn. Aurora Borealis at night | 24 | —rain, foggy |
| 12 } Sund. cloudy, disagreeable | 25 | —rain, foggy, thunder in the night |
| 13 } air, clouds thin | 26 | Sund. foggy, rain in the night |
| Depth of water fallen in rain, Warwick, 3.40 inches; snow 8 inches. | 27 | —cloudy and misty |
| Smithfield, 2.85 inches. | 28 | —foggy morning, fair P. M. |
| Smithfield, depth of water fallen in rain the last year, 33 inches; snow 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. | 29 | —foggy morning, rain at night |
| | 30 | —showers, heavy C last quarter thunder and sharp lightning |

Mason, April, 1807.

Snow storm the last day of March was very severe. It began about 7 o'clock, A. M. snowed fast for a short time. About half after 8, the clouds appeared to be dispersing and the sun was to be seen. Not far from nine, it snowed again, and the storm increased rapidly, wind continuing all the time in the east, or nearly east, and very strong and heavy. The snow was moist and mixed with some hail, (or frozen rain) and drifted unusually hard. The storm continued till almost night with unabating violence, when the wind shifted to W. or nearly W. and the snow continued to fall most of the night. On the Thursday following, was a considerable fall of snow,

which began in the P. M. and continued great part of the night, wind W. and N. W. It was difficult to determine with exactness the depth of snow fallen, but judged to be not less than two or two and a half feet in both storms. All roads for a time entirely blocked up.

Warwick, April 30, 1807.

This month has been unpleasant, the season very backward, and the ground so wet that but little ploughing has been done. The ground began to be bare about the 10th ; the 20th, the snow was mostly gone on cleared land, and frogs were heard ; since that time we have had very cloudy dull wet weather. English grain appears well. The month has been healthy.

W. COBB.

Smithfield, April 30, 1807.

There has been no very severe storms this month, but much cloudy wet weather. Till about the middle of the month the weather was cold and disagreeable ; the progress of vegetation small ; snow-banks were frequent, and travelling very bad. Then,

“ The penetrative sun,
His force deep-darting to the dark retreat
Of vegetation, set the steaming power
At large.”

“ From the moist meadow to the withered hill,
Led by the breeze, the vivid verdure ran,
And swelled, and deepened to the cherished eye.”

Lelachs began to put forth leaves about the 20th, and elms and maples were in blossom about the same time. Fruit trees show but very little signs of leaves, except in very warm sheltered situations. Grass is considerably started and looks promising. State of health remains favourable : some cases of fever and canker rash have, however, occurred. It is reported, that a number of dogs have been affected by hydrophobia, and bitten a number of cattle in the south-westerly parts of this State, and the easterly parts of Connecticut.

A SMITHFIELD SUBSCRIBER.

Hartford, April 30, 1807.

Some apricot and early peach trees in bloom the last day of the month. The season uncommonly backward. A very high freshet in Connecticut river, the last of the month.

State of Health. An uncommon disease prevailed in Hartford and in a neighbouring town this month. Seven children and young persons died in Hartford, after a very short illness ; some

of but a few hours. The disease appears to be similar to one which prevailed in Medfield last spring; as noticed in the *Register* for May last.

May 4. Another child has died this day of the disease above-mentioned, after an illness of nearly four days. Several are now convalescing. I hope our physicians will transmit to you a more particular account than I am able to give.

Deerfield, April 30, 1807.

At the commencement of the month of April, the mean depth of the snow was two feet; the night of the second, six inches more fell. This was followed by high westerly winds, which heaped the snow, in the hilly parts, into enormous drifts, and the roads for some time were impassable. After this we had several small snows. I am informed that the snow, on and near the Green Mountains, in Vermont, was five feet deep in the middle of April. Northerly and westerly winds generally prevailed the fore part of the month; these, coming from places deeply covered with snow, were cold. Spring of course, kept back. Ice continued late in the rivers. Sleighs passed Connecticut river on the ice, the 10th of April, a few miles above this town, where it had not been broken up in February. This is reckoned very extraordinary. About the 17th of the month, the weather became warmer; the southerly winds began to prevail; some rain fell; the snow began to dissolve, and the rivers rose and produced high freshets. These continued the remaining part of the month, alternately falling and rising, and at this time our intervals are nearly covered with water, and our farmers have not been able to seed the ground. Snow still continues several feet deep on the mountains of Vermont.

Vegetation has made but little progress, except the elm, maple, willow, lilach, and some few plants on the south side of hills. Little verdure is to be seen, and the season is backward.

The month has been healthy.

 The Bill of Mortality in 1806, so far as we have been favored with the materials, shall be given in our next.

CONDITIONS OF THE REGISTER.

PUBLISHED monthly, the last Wednesday of every month, at *One Dollar* per annum, delivered at the office, payable half yearly, in advance.

CONDUCTED BY DANIEL ADAMS, M. B.

BOSTON:—Printed by MANNING & LORING, at whose Bookstore, No. 2, Cornhill, any orders or communications for the *Register* will be received.